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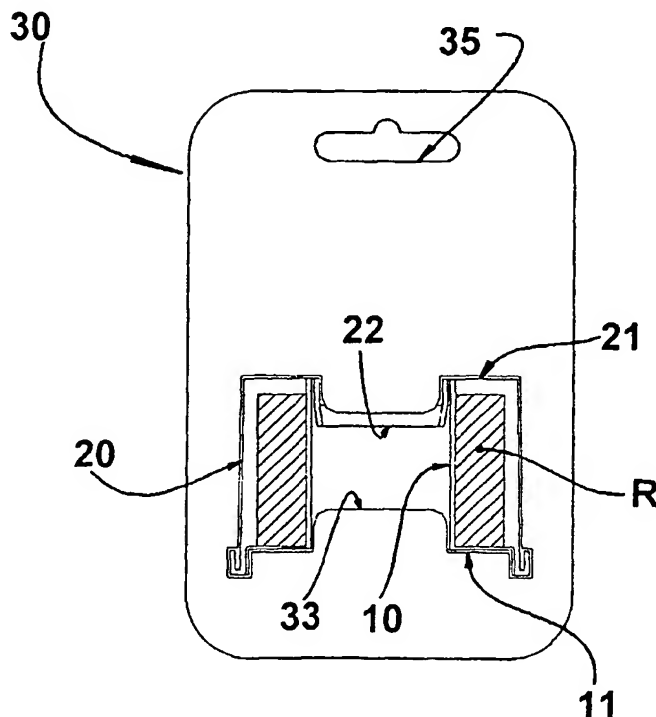
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(57) Abstract: A package for roll of bandage or another material in tape wound around a tubular reel (10), presenting a cylindrical lateral face and annular end faces usually covered by respective cover portions (11, 20, 21), which are at least partially removable by the user, said package comprising a supporting sheet (30) provided with a window (30a) having a pair of first opposite sides (31) to be seated on a cylindrical lateral face of a roll (R) fitted in said window (30a), and a pair of second opposite sides (32) to be seated on the two annular end faces of said roll (R), each of the second opposite sides (32) incorporating a median projection (33) to be fitted inside the adjacent end of tubular reel (10).



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

PACKAGE FOR ROLL

Field of the Invention

5 The present invention refers to a package for allowing the exposure of rolls of bandage or another material in tape in displaying devices provided in stores, where the articles to be commercialized are generally arranged in a hanging way.

10 Background of the Invention

It is well known the use of blister type packages for rolls of bandage or other materials in tape, in which the article defined by the roll of the material in tape is placed within a compartment defined by a kind
15 of tray, which is adequately dimensioned and shaped according to the shape and dimensions of the article (roll diameter and tape width), and which is generally obtained in a transparent thermoplastic material, presenting the peripheral edge of its surrounding wall
20 usually flanged and glued, or otherwise attached to a supporting sheet of paper, cardboard, plastic or any other adequate material, which is generally provided with a means, usually in the form of a hole for adaptation to a hook of a displaying device in
25 different places where the product is offered to the consumers. The supporting sheet further defines the portion of the package on which is printed or otherwise aggregated the information regarding the characteristics, origin, operation, cares, etc. to be
30 transmitted to the user.

Although being widely used and adequately complying with the requirements of protection and display of the article to be commercialized, these known blister type packages present as disadvantages the expensive
35 construction and assembly, requiring the provision of

the compartment being molded in a preferably transparent thermoplastic material and the posterior fixation thereof to the supporting sheet.

When the wound tape is commercialized without a case,
5 the blister type package functions as a protective case, until the user removes or tears the supporting sheet. However, when the tape to be commercialized is wound on a tubular reel provided with an external cover, which is selectively removable by the user when
10 he wishes to take an extension of the wound material, the additional protection provided by the blister type package is not necessary, increasing the cost of the final product without however aggregating any advantageous characteristic of commercialization or
15 utilization.

Object of the Invention

The object of the present invention is to provide a package for roll of bandage or another material in tape, with a cylindrical lateral face and annular end
20 faces, which are usually covered by a cover that is at least partially removable, presenting a simple and inexpensive construction, without affecting the necessary characteristics of good visual exposure of the article to be commercialized and easy adaptation
25 to hanging means of the displaying devices in the stores.

Disclosure of the Invention

The object mentioned above is achieved by providing a package for roll of bandage or another material in
30 tape, which is wound on a tubular reel presenting a cylindrical lateral face and annular end faces, which are generally covered by respective cover portions, which are at least partially removable by the user.
According to the invention, the package comprises a
35 supporting sheet medianly provided with at least one

window, which is shaped in order to present: a pair of first opposite sides, to be seated, by interference and by at least part of the extension thereof, onto respective diametrically opposite longitudinal extensions of the cylindrical lateral face of a roll of material in tape fitted in said window; and a pair of second opposite sides, to be seated, by interference and by at least part of the extensions thereof, onto respective diametrically opposite extensions of the two annular end faces of said roll of material in tape, each of the opposite sides of the second pair incorporating a median projection dimensioned to be fitted inside the adjacent end of the tubular reel.

15 Brief Description of the Drawings

The invention will be described below, with reference to the appended drawings, in which:

- Figure 1 shows a front plan view of a possible embodiment for the present package;
- 20 Figure 2 shows a perspective view of the package illustrated in figure 1, when carrying a roll of bandage;
- Figure 3 shows a top plan view of the assembly of figure 1; and
- 25 Figure 4 shows a sectional view of the present package, taken along line IV-IV in figure 3.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

As previously mentioned in the introduction of this disclosure, the present package is designed to a roll

30 "R" of bandage or another material in tape, said roll "R" being obtained by winding the material in tape on a tubular reel 10 defined by a cylindrical lateral face and two annular end faces.

In the illustrated configuration, the roll "R" has its

35 cylindrical lateral face and annular end faces covered

by respective cover portions, which are formed by an annular flange 11, incorporated in a single piece to one of the ends of the tubular reel 10, and by a cylindrical sleeve 20 to be removably inserted in the peripheral edge of the annular flange 11, in order to cover the cylindrical lateral face of the roll, and incorporating an annular end wall 21 dimensioned to cover the annular end face of the roll "R" opposite to that already covered by the annular flange 11 of the tubular reel 10. In this configuration, the annular end wall 21 of the cylindrical sleeve incorporates a small internal tubular projection 22 to be fitted inside the adjacent end of the tubular reel 10. In the construction of the roll "R" illustrated as an example, the annular flange 11 of the tubular reel 10 defines a respective cover portion, which covers the adjacent annular end face of the roll "R", while the annular end wall 21 of the cylindrical sleeve 20 defines another cover portion, which covers the other annular end face of the roll "R".

However, it should be understood that the roll "R" may be formed on other constructions of tubular reel and may be coated or not with a protective cover, which may be constructed in different ways as, for example, by a simple wrapping sheet being applied around the tubular shape of the roll "R".

The present package comprises a supporting sheet 30, which is obtained in a flexible material, such as paper, cardboard, plastic, etc., presenting any adequate contour. In the median region of the supporting sheet 30 there is provided at least one window 30a, which is opened and shaped, in order to present a pair of first opposite sides 31, with at least part of the extension thereof being seated by interference onto respective diametrically opposite

longitudinal extensions of the cylindrical lateral face of a roll "R" fitted in said window 30a, and a pair of second opposite sides 32, with at least part of the extension thereof being seated by interference onto respective diametrically opposite extensions of the two annular end faces of said roll "R". It should be understood that when the roll "R" is covered by the cover portions 11, 20 and 21, the annular end faces and the cylindrical lateral faces thereof are defined by the adjacent cover portions, which in the illustrated configuration consist of the annular flange 11 of the tubular reel 10 of the cylindrical sleeve 20 and by the annular end wall 21 of the latter.

The degree of interference between the roll "R" and the first and second sides 31, 32 of the window 30a may be determined by dimensioning the sides of the window 30a and by the design imparted to these sides, also taking into consideration the rigidity given to the selected supporting sheet 30.

In the illustrated configuration, the window 30a is substantially rectangular, with the first and second sides 31, 32 having rectilinear portions. However, it should be understood that these sides may present several profiles for better adaptation to the contour of the annular end faces and cylindrical lateral faces of the roll "R".

In order to better retain the roll "R" inside the window 30a, both opposite second sides 32 of the latter incorporate, each one, a median projection 33, which is dimensioned to fit inside the adjacent end of the tubular reel 10. This fitting may occur with more or less interference, as already mentioned in relation to the dimensioning and configuration of window 30a, being even possible to dimension the width of each

median projection 33 in a value substantially equal to the internal diameter of the tubular reel 10, in order to guarantee a close fitting between the two parts and a high degree of stability in the retention of the roll "R" on the supporting sheet 30.

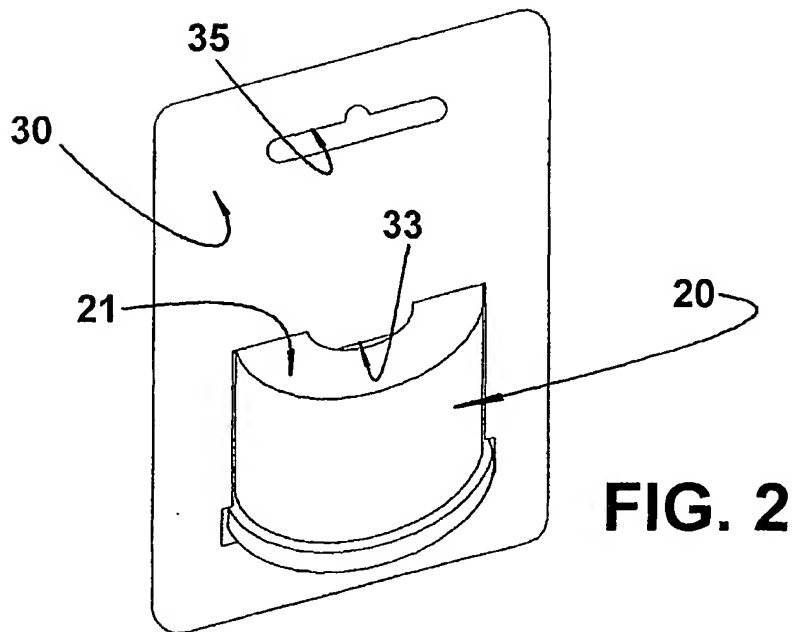
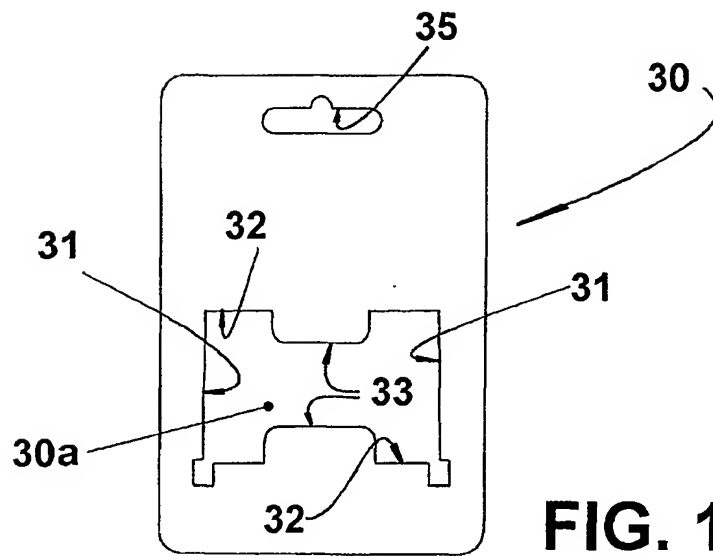
Aiming at facilitating the display of the article to be commercialized, the supporting sheet 30 is provided with a hanging device 35, which may have different shapes regarding either the male engaging element or the female engaging element to be coupled to a displaying device (not illustrated) in a store. In the illustrated configuration, the hanging device 35 is in the form of a hole provided close to an edge of the supporting sheet 30 and defined on the axis of the window 30a that cuts the opposite second sides 32.

It should be also understood that the supporting sheet 30 may be provided with more than one window 30a, each one for receiving and retaining a respective roll of material in tape.

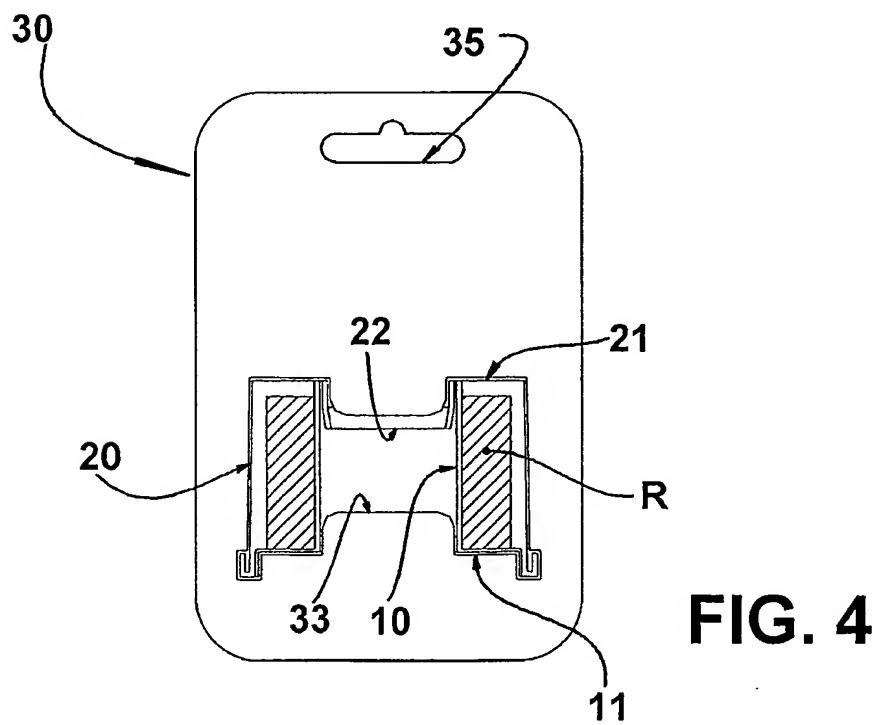
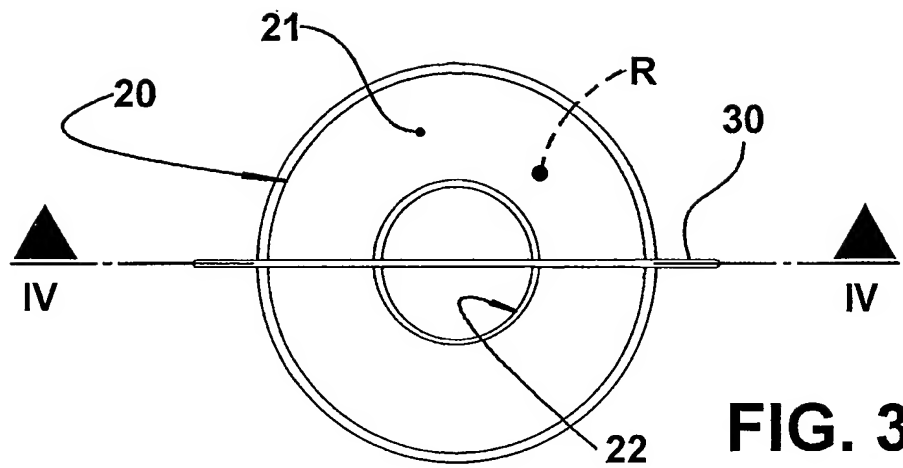
CLAIMS

1. A package for roll of bandage or another material in tape wound around a tubular reel (10) presenting a cylindrical lateral face and annular end faces usually covered by respective cover portions (11, 20, 21), which are at least partially removable by the user, characterized in that it comprises a supporting sheet (30) medianly provided with at least one window (30a), which is shaped in order to present: a pair of first opposite sides (31) to be seated, by interference and by at least part of the extension thereof, onto respective diametrically opposite longitudinal extensions of the cylindrical lateral face of a roll (R) fitted in said window (30a); and a pair of second opposite sides (32) to be seated, by interference and by at least part of the extension thereof, onto respective diametrically opposite extensions of the two annular end faces of said roll (R), each of the second opposite sides (32) incorporating a median projection (33) which is dimensioned to be fitted inside the adjacent end of the tubular reel (10).
2. Package, according to claim 1, characterized in that the first and second opposite sides (31, 32) of the window (30a) are seated on the respective cover portions (20, 21, 11) of the roll (R).
3. Package, according to any one of the claims 1 or 2, characterized in that the window (30a) presents a substantially rectilinear contour.
4. Package, according to claim 1, characterized in that the supporting sheet (30) is obtained in a flexible material.
5. Package, according to claim 1, characterized in that the supporting sheet (30) is provided with a hanging device (35).

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B65D		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 00 44643 A (MDC CORP) 3 August 2000 (2000-08-03) the whole document	1-7
X	EP 0 456 041 A (AGFA-GEVAERT) 13 November 1991 (1991-11-13) abstract; figure 1	1-4,7
A	US 5 020 660 A (AKERLEY ET AL.) 4 June 1991 (1991-06-04) abstract; figures	1-7
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents : *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *&* document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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			US 6196389 B1	06-03-2001
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